Macallem, Archibald Byron

Sept. 1914 – April 1915

ADDRESS REPLY TO
PROFESSOR A. B. MACALLUM,
BIOCHEMICAL DEPARTMENT,
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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September 9th, 1914.

President R.A. Falconer, C.M.G.,Litt.D.,
The University,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

I beg to recommend Mr. J.B. Collip, M.A., as Fellow in Biochemistry for 1914-15.

I am not prepared to recommend the appointment to the second Fellowship. It seems impossible to get candidates for these posts, and the only reason why Mr. Collip has now accepted the third year is that I have tempted him with the possibility of graduating as Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemistry next year.

For the third appointment, I have no one at all in view.

As I informed you John Lowndes, my trained and exceedingly trustworthy and valuable Laboratory Assistant has gone as Sergeant of the 48th Highlanders with the contingent at Valcartier. He is getting about $40. a month in that position. I would ~~insist~~ strongly recommend that his position be kept open for him, and that he be paid at least the difference per month between what he receives now, and what he would receive from

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the University, had he occupied his position, which is about $14. per month. This would permit me to get a temporary Assistant at about $500. to take his place until he returns.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

A. B. Macallum

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September 9th, 1914.

President R.A. Falconer, C.M.G.,Litt.D.,&c.
The University,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

Since the end of April last I have been endeavouring to find a person qualified to fill the position of Lecturer in Biochemistry, and have corresponded with, and interviewed, a number of individuals whose names were given my by Professors in Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, Chicago and Pennsylvania, but with the result that, of the desirable candidates, none were in the end prepared to accept the position, except on terms that I could not offer. They, in nearly every instance, had a choice of more than one post, although they were young graduates (Ph.D's., the majority of this year) and without medical qualifications.

Inquiries by correspondence in England have been also unsuccessful. All qualified there wanted a higher salary than is offered here, and therewith a Professorship.

During the last three weeks I approached several of our young Toronto graduates, and amongst these Dr. Allman Fletcher

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and Dr. R.D. Defries. These are not fully qualified, but I hoped that after a couple of years they might become efficient. Dr. Fletcher declined because he preferred to accept a Research Fellowship in the Rockefeller Insitiute, New York, and Dr. Defries is expecting to receive an appointment in Public Health work, to which he is now proposing to devote himself entirely as a career.

The only one now available for the position is my son, Dr. A. Bruce Macallum, at present in England and holding a Beit Memorial Fellowship for Medical Research. He was not considered as a candidate, nor was he thought of as available for the post until Saturday last. I received a letter from him on that day stating that practically all research work in England is stopped until after the war is finished, and that the Research Institute in which he has been working is to be taken over by the War Office for hospital purposes. It was in neither my plans nor his that he should return to Canada before October 1915, at which time he hopes to enter an important position, (not in Toronto, I may say) his appointment to which is now being discussed. The interruption of his work in London changes the situation for the intervening year, and this and

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the very urgent situation in my Department lead me now to recommend that he be appointed to the position of Lecturer in the Department for the year 1914-15.

I may add that he is, as you know, a graduate in Arts (First Class Honors B & P Course) and in Medicine (M.B. 1909, M.D. 1910) and has been Assitant Teaching Fellow in Biochemistry in Harvard three years, and has held a Beit Memorial Fellowhip for over two years, during which time he has been doing research work in Munich and London, England. His experience is very much greater and his training very much more extensive than the experience and the training of any of the candidates for the position that have been considered.

Yours sincerely,

A. B. Macallum

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Personal

September 9th, 1914.

President R.A. Falconer, C.M.G.,Litt.D.,etc.,
The University,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herewith a letter from Professor Folin and a copy of my answer to the same, which may be of interest in connection with the letter recommending my son to the Lectureship in the Department of Biochemistry. There was an earlier letter from Professor Folin, in which he urged me to take Bruce as the very best man that could be obtained for the position in question, but I have mislaid it.

When you have read these, will you kindly return them to me.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

A. B. Macallum

ADDRESS REPLY TO
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October 2nd, 1914.

President R.A. Falconer, C.M.G.,Litt.D.,

The University.

Dear Mr. President,

I recommend Dr. R.J. Manning as second Fellow in Biochemistry for the Session 1914-15.

I recommend also that C.A. Cline be appointed as Laboratory Attendant to serve in the place of John Lowndes at a salary of $400. for eight months. Lowndes, you will recall, has left to serve as Sergeant of the 48th Highlanders, who have gone with the Canadian Contingent to England. He was to receive $650. per year. The arrangement with Cline will permit giving to Lowndes a sum, which, with his sergeant's pay, will at least make up the amount he would receive, were he here filling his position.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

A B. Macallum

46'

October 27th, 1914

Professor A. B. Macallum,

Medical Building.

My dear Dr. Macallum:

I have spoken to the Superintendent about getting the goods through which Bruce is bringing with him. The Superintendent tells me that he will be glad to do anything he can, but he has to declare that these are imported by the University for strictly university purposes, or something to that effect.

I wonder whether if I were to write a letter stating that Bruce is on the staff, that he has brought this apparatus for research purposes, which will be conducted entirely within the University, and that it is to be used only for scientific investigation, the customs authorities would not allow these to come through free of duty . Meantime I am keeping the invoices.

Yours sincerely,

President.

April 15th, 1915

Professor A. B. Macallum,

University of Toronto.

My dear Professor Macallum:

The time is not very far off when it will be necessary to hold a conference of Universities, and I should like, if possible, to have our difficulties with regard to postgraduate work solved before it meets. May I suggest to you that the conference between the Board of Graduate Studies and the representatives of the various Faculties, which was authorised by the Senate last week, should be held as soon as possible in order that we may know where we stand in the matter? If there is any chance of an arrangement by mutual agreement I hope that the future of graduate work in the University will become brighter.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.